

# THE C4 NEWSLETTER

## *Colonial Coin Collectors Club*



Is Dublin Burning?

Winter 2005

Volume 13, Number 4



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Telephone (212) 582-2580  
FAX (212) 245-5018 or (212) 582-1946

## **The C4 Newsletter**

Volume 13 Number 4

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## **The Colonial Coin Collectors Club, Inc.**

Web address: [www.colonialcoins.org](http://www.colonialcoins.org)

### **C4 National Officers:**

President            Ray Williams

[njraywms@optonline.net](mailto:njraywms@optonline.net)

Vice-pres.        David L. Palmer

[Palmers4@erols.com](mailto:Palmers4@erols.com)

Treasurer:        Dr. Roger Moore

[Rogermoore435@yahoo.com](mailto:Rogermoore435@yahoo.com)

Secretary:        Frank Steimle

[fsteimle@aol.com](mailto:fsteimle@aol.com)

Past-president    Dennis Wierzba

[sscrosby@comcast.net](mailto:sscrosby@comcast.net)

*Membership questions, address changes, and dues should be sent to Roger Moore at the address listed above. Dues are \$20-regular (including 1<sup>st</sup> class mailing of the Newsletter), \$10 for junior members (under 18), \$400 for Life Membership (or 4 quarterly payments of \$100).*

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Region 1 (New England, Quebec, Canadian Maritimes)

Jim Skalbe

Region 2 (NY, NJ, PA, MD, DE, DC)

Dr. David Menchell

[dmenchell@aol.com](mailto:dmenchell@aol.com)

Region 3 (VA, WV, NC, SC, GA, FL, AL, MS, LA, TN, AR, PR)

Stan Stephens

[sstephens@hsc.wvu.edu](mailto:sstephens@hsc.wvu.edu)

Region 4 (OH, IN, IL, MI, WI, KY, IA, ND, SD, MN, KS, MO, NE, Ontario,  
Manitoba)

Dan J. Freidus

[friedus@wwnet.net](mailto:friedus@wwnet.net)

Region 5 (OK, TX, NM, AZ, ID, WY, CO, MT, UT, NV, Mexico)

Timothy J. Martin, Esq.

[tim@tjmlaw.com](mailto:tim@tjmlaw.com)

Region 6 (CA, HI)

Jim Goudge

Region 7 (OR, WA, BC, AK)

Buell Ish

[buell@vectrafitness.com](mailto:buell@vectrafitness.com)

## ***C4 Newsletter***

### **C4 Newsletter Editor:**

Sydney F. Martin, Technical Editor: [sfmartin5@comcast.net](mailto:sfmartin5@comcast.net)

Associate Editor: Roger Siboni; [novacaesarea@yahoo.com](mailto:novacaesarea@yahoo.com)

*Articles and classified ads may be mailed or e-mailed to Syd  
to Brian at the indicated e-mail  
address. Roger monitors the internet chatrooms of interest.*

### **C4 Librarian:**

Leo Shane,

[Leo\\_j\\_shane@hotmail.com](mailto:Leo_j_shane@hotmail.com)



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## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

(Ray Williams, President)

Happy New Year! Although this is the official "WINTER 2005" issue of the C4 Newsletter, it is actually going to print in January '06. As good as 2005 was numismatically, I expect 2006 to be even better! The Ford Sales are continuing, there will be a strong colonial presence at the EAC Convention in several months, I understand that the ANS is in the planning process for a COAC this year, C4 elections are here again, the C4 Convention and C4 Auction, just to name a few. Let me elaborate a little...

Only those new to the hobby are unaware of the ongoing Ford Sales by Stack's in NY. Not only are these auctions wonderful opportunities to obtain some of the finest known colonial coins, but the catalogs are packed with information that will remain the most current reference for decades! If you don't have a complete set, start looking for copies now. Michael Hodder has done the cataloging for these sales, and I don't believe anyone else in his profession could have come close to his performance.

The EAC Convention is being held in West Palm Beach this year May 4 - 7. M&G will be holding their club auction, so consider consigning those Large Cents, turning them into working capital for more colonials! There will be a Colonial Happening on Thursday night, an Educational Forum on Friday night and the EAC Auction on Saturday night. Other events are interspersed throughout the convention. I expect to see a strong presence of colonial collectors there. Mark your calendars now!

The Coinage of the Americas Conference, COAC, is an ANS event that I always look forward to. As it is still in the planning stages, I can't say too much, but it should take place this Fall in Manhattan. As soon as I have firm information, I'll make sure the C4 membership is notified.

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It is never too early to start planning your consignments for the next C4 Auction. If you start assembling your duplicates now, that will give you six months to say goodbye to them. I know I have accumulated duplicates over the years and I should trim my collection a little to keep it focused. While the Winter is still here, why not take your coins out of the bank and give them a close look. What you've grown tired of can find a new home where it will be appreciated.

Now, a topic of importance to all members. 2006 is an election year for C4 officers. Elected officers run for a term of two years. At this point, I haven't contacted any of the officers to see if they will consider running for another term. Your enjoyment of C4 and its benefits to you are largely due to the work of the officers you elect. Every two years, you get an opportunity to place people in the position to make the hobby a better place. Do you know someone who has a passion for this hobby? Someone you respect that is responsible? Nominate them for a C4 Officer position. Send their contact information to the C4 Secretary, Frank Steimle. They will be contacted and informed that they have been nominated to run for office. Even if they turn down the nomination, they will be honored that someone thought highly enough of them to place their name in consideration. The person making the nomination will be kept confidential. That's all there is to it! Once we have a slate of members running for office, we'll have our official election and the new officers will be installed at the 2006 C4 Convention. Please take this seriously – this is your club – make it work for you!

Lastly, please consider sending Syd Martin (C4 Editor) articles. They don't need to be full blown projects... Sometimes there is a need for something that is a paragraph or two long. A simple observation maybe... Articles of any length are appreciated.

Have FUN!  
Ray Williams

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## **INTERNET GLEANINGS**

(Edited by Roger Siboni)

### **THE ENIGMATIC ST. PATRICK COINAGE**

One of the most interesting sets of threads I have yet to follow on [colonial-coins@yahoogroups.com](mailto:colonial-coins@yahoogroups.com) was the discourse that occurred from approximately October 14 to November 14, 2005 regarding St. Patrick Halfpence and Farthings. The discussions were wide-ranging and included several participants. Generally, the threads variously named: St. Patricks and the Isle of Man...NOT, Who is Sharpe, Who is Marke Newbie, Is Newbie his Real Name, St. Patrick's Iconography, Lord Berkeley, Robert Turner, Anthony Sharpe & Mark Newbie, and Dublin on Fire ... addressed the origins and iconography of the St. Patrick Coinage and the man (men) that brought them to New Jersey for eventual circulation.

Ordinarily, I try to follow a format of chronologically narrating the various threads with editorial additions of facts and insights that aid in the discussion's flow. Given the complexity and depth of this series of threads, I felt a different approach was necessary for this "internet gleaning." My approach will be directed at trying to summarize some of the key observations and opinions by subject and author. I will also highlight a few reference sources that seemed interesting or which were used in developing this section of my column.

### **When Were the St. Patrick Halfpence and Farthings Produced and Distributed?**

This subject has daunted many a numismatic scholar over the past century. C-4 Member Brian Danforth recently provided us with a



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scholarly discussion of this subject in his two part article entitled “St. Patrick Coinage” appearing in the December 2002 issue of the Colonial Newsletter Vol. 42, No. 3, Serial No. 121, pp. 2371-2402. In his article, Brian essentially concluded that the historical, circumstantial and iconographical approaches to dating these enigmatic coins (tokens) left far too much to the imagination. Instead he chose to date and place the minting of this coinage by evaluating the existing technology that was necessarily employed and available. Without rehashing Brian’s extensive discussion and analysis (which is a must read for anyone interested in St. Patrick coinage), he concluded that they were the work of Peter Blondeau between 1667 and 1669, minted clandestinely somewhere near the Tower Mint using blank copper planchets imported from Sweden. This dating, of course, fits nicely with the discovery of a St. Patrick Farthing on the Yacht Mary Rose, which sunk during the early hours of March 24, 1675, New Year’s Day.

Well, needless to say, there were a lot of differing opinions on this subject. Each had its own basis in fact and theory and I leave it to the Newsletter reader to go back and read the archives of these posts and see which one sways you the most.

**John Lupia**, who is currently working on a manuscript regarding St. Patrick Coinage favored 1642 to 1648 at the Tower Mint under the reign of Charles I, who had these manufactured to pay the Irish troops fighting against Oliver Cromwell. The need was there, the iconography and legends fit Charles I’s Catholic tolerance and his desire to unite Great Britain. (This theory is consistent with that of Walter Breen and 18<sup>th</sup> Century Irish Numismatist James Simon, who points to “The Order of The General Assembly of Kilkenny” for their authorization).

John further suggested that upon the execution of Charles I, and the general repression of Catholicism under Cromwell, the coins went into hiding. The coins resurfaced again some 11 years later after the return to the throne of Charles I’s son, Charles II. As his

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argument proceeded, this resurfaced cache formed the corpus of the Newby hoard destined for New Jersey.

**Oliver D. Hoover**, who is also working on an article that will be appearing shortly in the *American Journal of Numismatics* 16-17 (2004-2005) entitled “A Note on the Typology of the St. Patrick Coinage in its Restoration Context”, weighed in on this subject. Oliver argued that the iconography and legends of the Farthings and Halfpence clearly pointed to a dating of around 1660 and the beginning of the Restoration and the reign of Charles II. It is interesting to note that in the September 1966 issue of the *Numismatic Scrapbook* (Vol. XXXII No. 9 Whole No. 367) Lynn Glasser in “The Origins of St. Patrick Farthing and Other American Colonials” illustrated an engraving of Charles II that closely resembles the image of David kneeling and playing the harp on the St. Patrick Coinage.

Essentially Oliver argued that the legends and devices, when taken as a whole, represent Church and State (Episcopal Anglicanism and the Monarchy) happily reunited with the return of Charles II after almost two decades of war and repression.

**Stan Stephens**, also working on an attribution guide for St. Patrick Farthings and Halfpence offered yet another view, and one certainly not previously considered by your Associate Editor. Stan posited that this coinage was actually manufactured in the late 1500s to early 1600s by the Vatican Mint or a mint associated with the Vatican. Stan felt it highly improbable that any British Monarch of the 1600 to 1700 era would condone, let alone manufacture and authorize, coinage for any portion of the British Empire that so overtly promoted the coexistence and equality of the Catholic Church and the King of England. He further argued that the Vatican, being one of the more sophisticated Mints in existence at the time (Leonardo da Vinci invented the collar for the Vatican Mint in the early 1500s), had the means to manufacture such a sophisticated coinage with complex devices, splashers and

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reeded edges. Thus, these were essentially propaganda pieces shipped to Ireland to promote and support the Irish Rebellion.

Stan also observed that the Numismatic scholars in France and England during the 1650 to 1700 timeframe had little or no knowledge of the St. Patrick coinage, making it unlikely that they were manufactured during the last half of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century. However, one has to ask why they would not have been aware of a coin manufactured during an earlier period.

Perhaps my favorite post on dating was **Will Nipper's**. Will was willing to place a \$100 wager on dating as follows: \$60 on Charles II, \$20 on Charles I, \$5 on the Vatican, \$5 on an Irish Token and \$10 on ...” The Daily Double”... the Halfpennies made on one date and the Farthings on another. Will also made an interesting observation that David playing the harp can very well just represent David and not necessarily be emblematic of Ireland (the harp) or any Monarch (the individual playing it).

## **About Mark Newbie (Newby):**

Even if we were to discover who made the St. Patrick coinage and when, that still leaves the unanswered question of how the Quaker Mark Newby managed to acquire over 10,000 halfpence (and potentially farthings) which were heavily Catholic in design, as currency for one of the first Quaker settlements in North America.

But first, there was an interesting thread surrounding who Mark Newby was and how he came to New Jersey with his coins. I would start by pointing out the interchangeable use of the spellings Newbie and Newby. While not discussed at any great length in the threads, your Associate Editor favors Newby simply because there is an original copy of the “removal certificate” (letter of introduction) for Mark “Newby” and William Bates to the Friends in the New World contained in Chat Board Member David Gladfelter’s truly outstanding article on “Mark Newby: Quaker

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Pioneer” TAMS 10/74 reproduced in CNL Vol. 29 No. 3 December 1989 Serial No. 83 (another ABSOLUTELY must read). This certificate was issued by the Ballicane Friends Meeting, County Wicklow, Ireland. David also points out at footnote 19 that there is a known signature of Mark’s widow, Hannah, using the spelling Newby.

Returning to Newby’s roots, with the great posts by **John Lupia, John Lorenzo, Roger Moore, Ray Williams, Stan Stephens, Oliver D. Hoover** and others I am sure I missed (as well as David Gladfelter’s article), we know Newby was born in 1638 and died sometime between May and September of 1683. He married Elizabeth Welbre in 1663 near Gowering, County of Kilkenny, Ireland, and moved to the Dublin area in 1664. Elizabeth had three children with her first husband and two more with Mark Newby. Newby loses Elizabeth and the five children to various illnesses and remarries Hannah Holmes in 1674 and proceeds to have four more children. In 1681 he meets William Bates, another prominent local Quaker, and soon decides (or is persuaded) to move to America.

From Gladfelter’s article, we know that around this time, William Penn, who was both influential with the King and sympathetic to the Quaker movement, formed a joint stock company with 4600 square miles of property in then West New Jersey. He issued 100 shares of stock at 350 pounds a share. A group of Irish Quakers purchased 2 shares of stock in this Company. Newby acquired a  $\frac{1}{20}$  interest in one of these shares (or  $(4,600/100) \times .05 = 2.3$  square miles), as did William Bates, Thomas Thackara, and Thomas Sharp (out of his uncle Anthony Sharp’s presumably larger interest). George Goldsmith also acquired a  $\frac{1}{10^{\text{th}}}$  interest. From John Lupia’s post we know that these individuals along with their families and fellow Quakers set sail for Western New Jersey on September 19, 1681 on ‘Ye Owners Adventure’.

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Once in New Jersey, this group of Irish Quakers settled in the area that was then called Newton Township but is now known as Woodlynne in Camden County (about 60 miles as the crow flies from my home in Mantoloking, New Jersey). There they established themselves, and Mark Newby, over the next two years, rose in prominence. He hosted many Friends Meetings in his home, became a member of the Assembly of West New Jersey and was elected by his peers to the Governor's Council.

In the Second Assembly meeting of West New Jersey on May 2-6, 1682 Newby was in attendance and therein it was resolved that:

*“Mark Newbie’s half-pence, shall...pass for half-pence current pay of this province provided he the said Mark, give sufficient security to The Speaker of this House, for the use of The General Assembly from time to time being, that he the said Mark, and his executors and administrators, shall and will change the half-pence, for pay equivalent upon demand...”*

From Assembly minutes, we know that Newby served in two more sessions of the West New Jersey Assembly during November 1682 and May 1683. Upon his death, consistent with the Assembly proclamation, his widow was required to redeem the halfpence (and potentially farthings) for 30 Pounds. In Mossman's, *Money of the American Colonies and Federation*, he estimates that this translated to 10,800 halfpence (and/or potentially farthings) at the then prevailing rates of exchange. However, John Lupia observed in developing his current manuscript, that there might be an error in this calculation surrounding some confusion with respect to pence and halfpence. Accordingly, John argues that the number of redeemed halfpence may actually have been as high as 21,600.

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## **What We Still Don't Know About Newby and St. Patrick Coinage**

While the various threads were helpful in piecing together several of the known or construable facts surrounding Saint Patrick Farthings and Halfpence, they were equally instructive in highlighting many of the things we still do not know about these enigmatic coins. Here is a partial list of outstanding questions from the various posts:

**John Lupia:** Why did a leading Quaker like Mark Newby choose or even accept a coin depicting St. Patrick and David (or Charles I or II), which represent the antithesis of the Quaker movement as their new home's coin of the realm?

**John Lorenzo:** John questioned the role of Anthony Sharpe (uncle of Thomas Sharpe and father of Isaac Sharpe who both made the September 19, 1681 crossing from Dublin to New Jersey) in establishing the New Jersey Quaker Colony. Though he apparently had *at least* a 2.3 square mile land interest, as a Quaker, it was unlikely that his interest was speculative. Being a man of some means and influence in the Dublin Quaker Community, John suggested that he might have had a greater hand in the New Jersey expedition than history has thus far told us. John goes on to speculate that he could have helped finance the expedition as well as the initial purchase of the St. Patrick coinage. Although as **Ray Williams** logically pointed out, this would seem unlikely as Newby's widow financed the redemption of all 30 pounds of outstanding St. Patrick coinage upon his death. **John Lupia** observed, however, that Newby did not necessarily have to be the one that initially acquired and brought over the coinage. He only oversaw it becoming authorized and agreed to stand for its collateralization. Stated differently, Newby could have purchased them from one of the Sharpes after they all arrived in New Jersey.

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John Lorenzo has promised us an article on this subject sometime in the near future.

**Various:** What happened to the 10,800 halfpence? Was it only halfpence that were brought over and circulated? Were halfpence and farthings freely intermixed?

**John Lorenzo:** Even though we know that St. Patrick coinage was officially demonetized in the Isle of Man by the Act Tynwald in 1681, did they ever really circulate there at all? In an e-mail to John from noted Isle of Man numismatist Alan Kelly, he states that in his experience in numismatics since 1972, only three St. Patrick farthings have surfaced in the Isle and only one arose from a metal detectorist. Moreover the Manx National Heritage collection has less than a half dozen examples of St. Patrick coinage compared to plentiful examples of Irish and Scottish coinage of the same period.

**Stan Stephens:** Stan Stephens observed that the small lines emanating from the top of the Three Towers (Coat of Arms for Dublin) on the reverse shield of the St. Patrick Halfpenny are actually flames. Oliver D. Hoover suggested that this potentially symbolized Ireland's willingness to defend its country to the bitter end. Illustrated below is a Vlack 5-F St. Patrick Halfpenny that shows the flames, as well as a blow-up of the shield.

Subsequently, Stan located a more precise description of the Coat-of-Arms of the City of Dublin:

“The Coat-of-Arms of the city of Dublin dates from 1607, it shows three castles, each with three battle towers. Flames leap from the towers of the castles. People often think the castles are on fire, but there are not, in fact the flames represent the zeal or enthusiasm of the citizens to defend their city.” (from:

[http://www.dublincity.ie/living\\_in\\_the\\_city/kidsplus/city\\_hall/city\\_seal\\_and\\_coat\\_of\\_arms.asp](http://www.dublincity.ie/living_in_the_city/kidsplus/city_hall/city_seal_and_coat_of_arms.asp))



St. Patrick Halfpenny, Obverse Die 5, Showing a Blow-up of the Shield. Note the flames arising from the castles.



## HIGLEY'S STRUCK IN CONNECTICUT

We have all heard the story of the Connecticut blacksmith named John Higley who struck copper coins to pay his local bar tab. Through a series of threads, the Chat Board took aim at this apocryphal story and questioned to what degree our Mr. Higley actually extracted, refined, smelted and produced copper coins from the mines in Simsbury, Connecticut. The thread began with a citation from **John Lorenzo** suggesting that high-grade copper ore was being shipped from New York to Bristol England between 1753 and 1755. This gave rise to a series of questions as to whether Higley had the capability of smelting the copper ore to manufacture his coppers in the first instance. Or alternatively, was the ore shipped to Great Britain, refined, smelted, made into copper strips or planchets and then sent back to Higley. **Oliver D. Hoover** was the first to suggest that this was not really practical from an economic point of view and it would have been far cheaper to just purchase raw planchets for striking. **John Lorenzo** agreed and suggested that a metallurgical analysis of Higley coppers and the copper derived from the mine was long overdue but could prove whether they came from Simsbury. **Craig McDonald** inquired as to whether the ore at Simsbury mines was sufficient enough to warrant mining and exportation. He further observed that smelting of ores like copper had been occurring for over 4000 years so it was not at all far fetched for Higley to smelt his ore and make his own coppers. **Oliver** reminded us that Messrs. Hull and Sanderson smelted silver in the 1600s so surely the capabilities were there to smelt copper once extracted and refined. **Will Nipper** also noted that iron foundries from the 1700s still existed in Connecticut, and that were employed to make, among other things, cannon balls. **David Palmer** reminded us of the Saugus Iron Works (discussed in an earlier Internet Gleanings Column).

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Various back and forth posts ensued discussing what exactly existed at the mines and whether there were accompanying refining operations. If so, it was thought that it was possible that ore was extracted, refined and smelted into copper for coinage.

**Will Nipper** reminded us that this was a mercantile economy after all, and that the Crown no doubt wanted all raw materials (like ore) produced by the Colonies to be shipped back to England. He also provided us with a nice website that talked about modern day Newgate, which once was the home of the mines, then a site for revolutionary and civil war prisons, and is now a historic site.

Well I have to admit to having been intrigued by this thread so I set out to see if I could find a few answers to some of the questions posed. I basically used four sources: (1) our own Dan Freidus' "The History and Die varieties of Higley Coppers" in *The Token: America's Other Money* edited by Richard Doty, Coinage of the Americas Conference at the ANS October 29, 1994; (2) Joseph C. Mitchelson's "Address to the New York Numismatic Club, John Higley, His Famous Granby Tokens," *Mehl's Numismatic Monthly* Volume III, No. 6 June 1910; (3) *Newgate of Connecticut* by Richard J. Phelps; and (4) an article appearing in *Coin World* by Paul Gilkes, February 24, 2003. Here is what I found:

First, to get terminology squared away, the Township of Simsbury originally embraced all the territory within the present limits of Simsbury, Granby, East Granby and Canton. Granby was made a separate township 50 years after the coppers were made (assuming the coinage dating coincides with actual manufacture).

The copper mines were located in East Granby and first discovered in 1705. Various local and foreign companies were formed to work the mines over the years, but most significantly in 1712, a 30-year lease was signed with Reverend Timothy Woodbridge Jr. of Simsbury, William Partridge of Newbury, Massachusetts and William Belcher of Boston (later Governor of Massachusetts and

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New Hampshire and then Governor of New Jersey) to develop part of what was then known as Copper Hill. Housing was built on the site as well as a stamping mill to crush the ore. Belcher traveled to England and returned with 12 miners and a refiner. Belcher's refinery was actually set up in Boston so that Belcher could oversee it. Eventually the Boston refinery was shut down and the ore was sent directly to Bristol, England for refining.

Notwithstanding this, other smaller partnerships formed to mine Copper Hill and a more clandestine refinery was built and operated in Simsbury. In addition to the Simsbury mines, others were established in the Colonies like the Schuyler Mines in New Jersey, which shipped extensive quantities of raw ore to Bristol as well.

Now for Mr. Higley. Far from being a lowly drunken blacksmith, the Higleys were one of the most important families in Connecticut. In 1695, Sam Higley (John's father) was the largest taxpayer and the wealthiest man in the Colony. His son John Higley was very well educated, having studied medicine and metallurgy and having learned the well-respected blacksmith trade. In 1728, John Higley bought 143 acres just south of Copper Hill. Records indicate that copper was mined there and exported to England. Also in 1728, the General Court granted John Higley the exclusive right to make steel in the colony for 10 years. Indeed, he is considered the first man in the Colonies to have made his own steel. Finally we know that Higley was enough of an expert in the field of copper mining that he was hired by Belcher to evaluate the quality of ore coming from Copper Hill.

It appears, as **Will Nipper** suggested, that unless specifically authorized, all raw ore was to be shipped back to England by the colonists. We also know that the manufacture and issuance of coinage by anyone but the Crown was illegal. Thus, it stands to reason that whoever struck the so-called Higley Coppers would have left no records of their production. Having said this, we have John Higley with access to copper ore, refining and smelting capacity nearby, the resources and skill to manufacture steel dies

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for stamping copper planchets, and the influence and means to have his coinage circulate. My guess is that he did or oversaw it all.

In full disclosure, it is worth noting that at least one Higley variety is dated 2 years after John Higley's death and that metallurgy experiments have been conducted but have proven inconclusive. Still, my "Good Copper" is with Higley.



## **THE AMENITIES OF COIN COLLECTORS**

### **Second of a Three Part Series**

(Roger Siboni)

Part I of a 3-part series was published in the last issue of the C4 Newsletter. The series was republished in the inaugural issue (Volume 1, Number 1, January 1908) of Max Mehl's *Numismatic Monthlies*. This article had been published by Spink & Son's sometime in the mid-late 19<sup>th</sup> century in their *Numismatic Circular*, and was a translation of a chapter added to the Third Edition of Comm. Francesco Gnechi's *Monete Romane*. It is interestingly to note how relevant it remains to this day.

### ***Part II - RELATIONS WITH COLLECTORS - VISITS TO COLLECTORS***

The collector with few rare exceptions in the case of an egotist or a misanthrope who desires to keep himself shut mysteriously in his own domain, is always pleased when a colleague interests himself in his collection and asks permission to see it.

It is always permissible to ask a collector such a favor, and generally is foolish to refuse it without reason.

When permitted to see a certain collection the visitor must be contented with what the collector chooses to show him, and must not be indiscreet in his demands and above all allow the owner himself to open the cases containing the coins. He should not touch the coins without asking leave, and it should be done with the greatest care, without letting them fall or injuring them in any way. If at any time during the visit the owner is obliged to absent himself for a time leaving the coin cabinet open, the visitor ought not to remain within reach of the coins. Let him withdraw to some distance until the owner returns.

Some years ago an old and respectable dealer who was visiting me for the first time, and in whom I had every confidence was looking at my collection when I was called away by a member of my family.

Without any thought of him I left the room, but saw that the old man followed me into the adjoining room saying: "I will wait here." And as I was surprised at his doing so, I requested him to continue his inspection. "It is impossible," said he, "I never remain alone in a room where a coin cabinet is open. If ever it should happen that some coin was missing I should not like to see myself in a position to be suspected." And I think he was right.

Although it may not be absolutely necessary to leave the room it is always as well, in a similar case, to place oneself at such a distance and in such a position as to make it impossible to touch the coins on view. On visiting a collection for the first time, it is naturally admiration of the most important pieces or praise of the good order or arrangement, whatever it may be; it is praise that always pleases the owner. But admiration and praise can vary according to the relative positions of visitor and visited and it is only a question of tact. The delicate moment arrives when the visitor perceives a piece which he suspects or knows to be false. Ought he to declare his opinion, or hold his peace-which is best? No general rule can

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be given. One must act according to the particular case. If the two collectors are on confidential terms there is no question of doubt; let him speak plainly and openly. And also when the owner asks his colleague his opinion of a coin, he is obliged to give it sincerely and faithfully freely expressing the view which he holds. But the matter is embarrassing when the two are unknown to each other, and no question is asked by the owner and it is so much the more so as the distance is greater in age, experience, position or in any other way between the two. Is the visitor a proficient and the collector a novice? It is best that the former should say something friendly and as if in fatherly counsel to the other. If the reverse is the case, the visitor can only express his doubt with diffidence, rather as if asking for instruction, but probably he will do better to say nothing, with the idea that his judgment is not mature, and that he might utter an absurdity. He will be able to give the matter more consideration and speak of it another time.

In every case then, such observations, which are never pleasant to those who receive them should always be made, when not expressly asked for, in a hesitating manner. An accusation against a piece which no longer bears a good impression ought never to be absolute but always subordinate to the opinion of the colleague, and often softened by the declaration that it is made on the declaration of the impression of the moment or by a confession of slight knowledge of the epoch or the series or some similar justification, in a way which leaves an opportunity of honorable withdrawal, because infallibility in these questions of opinion is not expected. All are subject to error, and all, in one way or another have erred. But the gravest fault is when a visitor seeing a piece in your collection expresses not the least opinion of it and then publicly declares it to be false. Everyone is at liberty to form his own opinion in his own mind, and I go farther than that and think he may communicate it privately to some friend; but it is not the part of a gentleman to make a public declaration without the consent of the owner unless after such declaration there follows a public discussion. It is never permissible to give a public account

### ***C4 Newsletter***

of an unknown inedited coin, or a variation, whether seen in a private collection or at a dealer's, without the consent of the owner.

The influence of the publication forms part of the property, and a third person can not arrogate it to himself without the permission of the owner if he is a collector or without buying the coin if he is a dealer.

The visitor is a little more free to write and express his own opinion regarding coins seen in public collections, because he himself has an infinitesimal share ownership in these, and may so much the less consider public opinion, but it shows little courtesy towards the curator to express opinions publicly which have not been first submitted to him, especially when they touch on the delicate question of authenticity.

To denounce a piece as false is an offense against the curator of the museum and should not be done except in agreement with the curator himself and with the announcement at the same time that this opinion is held in spite of the contrary opinion held by the curator. Then the announcement has no appearance of treachery, the responsibility is divided, the divergence of opinion is defined and the discussion can be carried on openly and freely.

\*\*\*\*\*

The last installment of this series, Part III, will be published in a future issue of the C-4 Newsletter.



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## HISTORICAL NOTES

Submitted by Syd Martin. I recently procured a copy of an early newspaper, the New-York Mercury, January 9, 1758, No. 282 (Printed by Hugh Gaine, at the *Bible & Crown* in *Hanover-Square*). I noted two articles of interest:

### From Page 1:

#### “Colony of New-York

Whereas by a Law of this Colony, passed the last Sessions, entitled, *An Act to continue an Act for laying an Excise upon all Tea of foreign Growth retailed within this Colony*; all Retailers of Tea under the Quantity of 100 *lb.* Weight, are to be licensed for that Purpose, and to pay *Six Pence* for every Pound so retailed, for one Year from the first Day of *January* next: These are therefore to notify to all Persons desirous to retail Tea (except those within the City and County of *Albany*) that they are to apply to me for Licence to retail; and not presume to retail Tea under the Quantity of 100 *lb.* Weight, after the first Day of *January* next, until they shall have obtained new Licence from me: And whereas it is provided and enacted, That all Retailers of Tea, for their better Conveniency, may attest their Accounts before one of the Judges of the Courts of Common Pleas within any of the respective Counties of this Colony, where such Retailers dwell or reside; such Accounts will be received by me. All Retailers of Tea that are in Arrear for Excise of Tea, from the first Day of *January* last, to the first Day of *January* next, are desired to make speedy Payment, to prevent Trouble. Attendance will be given at my House in *Wall-Street*, from Nine to 12 o’Clock in the Forenoon, and from Two to Four in the Afternoon, by

AB. LYNSEN  
New-York, Decem. 28, 1757”



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From Page 2:

“BOSTON, December 26.

A few Days ago a Man was committed to Goal here, for making and uttering counterfeit Dollars and what are commonly called Cobs, which, it's said are so like the true ones, that People may easily be deceived, without a careful Inspection. It is said great Numbers have been put off in the Western Parts of this Province; and also in the Neighbouring Provinces. At Halifax in Nova-Scotia it is said that many counterfeit Dollars are likewise passing there, as also two Pistareen Cob Pieces, so call'd: The last are stamped with a Four-Pistareen Stamp, are made of Pewter, and covered with Leaf-Silver; the Dollars are also made of Pewter, and exceedingly well done; the Edges of them seem to be cut with a File. The Counterfeits are considerably lighter than true ones. This is mentioned to prevent the Unwary being deceived, as some of them may perhaps find their Way hitherto.

We hear that four Men were apprehended and committed to Goal a few Days ago at Sheffield, in the County of Hampshire, for making and uttering counterfeit Dollars, a Number of which, together with their Tools, were found upon them. “



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

There was a discussion initiated from the floor at the C4 Annual Business meeting regarding the C4 Newsletter. A motion was made from the floor and approved to change the format from the current size to 8.5" by 11". This was approved by an overwhelming majority, if not unanimously. It was also noted that the pages should **NOT** be stapled. Our newsletter size will now be the same as Penny Wise and the Colonial Newsletter. Also this format will be more conducive to the use of plates, easier to make

working copies of pages, easier to bind, or easier to store in file cabinets.

Also, I don't want to embarrass anyone, but I really appreciate the donated lots that were auctioned this year with the proceeds going to C4. In addition to the awesome coins that Bud Bibbons donated, and were listed as such in the catalog, there were others. At the convention there were a couple inserts for the catalog with last minute donated lots. An annual donor is Dave Menchell, who consigned 5 lots of hand made woodwork having a colonial theme. Wayne Shelby donated a display case of colonial buttons that were found while metal detecting in NJ. All the buttons were in great shape! Dan Freidus donated a rock heavily laden with copper ore, from the mine that Higley worked to produce his coppers in Granby, CT. Dave Wnuck donated a coin cabinet, beautifully made with drawers - specifically designed for coins. Tony Terranova donated two copies of the Maris Plate of NJ Coppers, which were previously owned by Richard Picker.

Beside the donations, I want to thank the bidders, who I will not refer to, but who bid much more than the items are worth, just to promote C4! You guys are the best!

## Ray Williams



The current C4 Officers will serve until November 2006; thus, it is not too soon to start thinking of nominees for these positions. Should any member wish to nominate an individual for any of the officer positions, he/she should so notify the C4 Secretary, Frank Steimle, whose contact data can be found on page 1.



Start thinking about the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual C4 Auction -- quality consignments are being sought to make it a memorable one. To

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discuss consigning all, or part, of your colonial collection to this important auction, contact one of the following:

(1) Chris McCawley, [REDACTED]

(2) Bob Grellman, [REDACTED]

(3) Tom Rinaldo, [REDACTED]



### **C4 LIBRARY NEWS**

(Leo Shane, Librarian)

Thank You to all for your donations to the C4 Library. Your contributions are appreciated by all C4 members. Below are new items donated to the club which are now available for loan to all C4 members. A complete list of library holdings and instructions on how to borrow them is available at the C4 website [www.colonialcoins.org](http://www.colonialcoins.org).

#### **Books & Newsletters:**

Zaboly, Gary Stephen, *A True Ranger: The Life and Many Wars of Major Robert Rogers*, Garden City Park, NY, 2004 (Donated by Dave Palins)

Convention Booklet for the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual C4 Convention, 17-20 November 2005, Boston, Includes; schedule of events, bourse floor plan, president's message and exhibit summaries (Donated by Ray Williams)

Colonial Newsletter: Issue #129, December 2005 (Donated by the American Numismatic Society)

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**Auction Catalogs:**

(Donated by the Auction Company unless otherwise stated)

Baldwin's Auction # 42 – The William C Boyd Collection, 26 September 2005, London GB (Donated by Dave Palins)

Stacks – John J. Ford, Jr. Collection of Coins, Medals and Currency Part XII (The Silver Coinage of Massachusetts – New England, Willow Tree, Oak Tress & Pine Tree Coinage), 18 October 2005, New York, NY (hard bound copy)

Stacks – John J. Ford Jr. Collection of Coins, Medals and Currency Part XIII (French Colonial Coins and Tokens, Betts Medals: Part 1), 16 January 2006, New York, NY

Stacks – Americana Public Auction – Colonial and Federal Coins, Medals and Currency, 16-18 January 2006, New York, NY

Heritage Galleries & Auctions – The Jules Reiver Collection Volume 1, 24-28 January 2006, Dallas, TX

*The library is now taking donations of EAC's Penny Wise Newsletter. If you have any original copies you wish to donate, please write or e mail me so that we can avoid having duplicates.*

*Suggestions for additions to the library are always appreciated. Please consider donating books, auction catalogs, etc. to the library. Remember, those who are learning about colonials now are those who will be buying your coins later. Thank You, my E Mail is [Leo\\_J\\_Shane@hotmail.com](mailto:Leo_J_Shane@hotmail.com) or write to me at [REDACTED]*



## **C4 NATIONAL CONVENTION OF 2005**

Following are the minutes of the general C4 Annual Meeting, prices realized at the auction, and some candid photographs of the events.

### **C4 General Meeting Minutes November 19, 2005, Boston MA**

Ray Williams, President, Presiding  
Frank Steimle, Recording Secretary

26 members signed the attendance sheet, but about a dozen more were probably present at some time during the meeting.

#### **1. Introductions.**

Ray opened the meeting and a few new faces were evident. All introduced themselves.

#### **2. Previous Meeting Minutes.**

A brief summary of the minutes of the last meeting during the 2004 C4 convention and the traditional meeting at the summer ANA (recorded by Leo Shane) was presented and accepted by those in attendance. Leo noted the transfer of the CNLF Barnsley Connecticut reference collection and research Library to ANS.

#### **3. Treasurer's Report.**

Roger Moore noted that we took in \$16,727.58 from the 2004 C4 auction, dues, CD interest, book sales and others, and we spent \$13,851.69 mostly on publishing the C4 newsletter, and Vermont plates. The clubs total assets are about \$93,000 which we can continue to apply to various colonial numismatic research and

### ***Winter, 2005***

publication efforts. Ray added that we have reached the break-even level on the sale of Bob Vlack's French Colonial book. He also noted we made an effort to advertise C4 in various numismatic newspapers and magazines with poor responses; he believes other avenues of publicity need to be considered.

### **4. Status on C4 sponsored research and publications.**

Lou Jordan's book on Hull was available this year at the C4 Table. Work on some of the C4 supported projects and updates was discussed during the meeting. Roger Siboni's opus on NJ coppers (with Jack Howes' great help) perhaps ready in 2007 and a draft of Brian Dansforth's book on pre-Confederation coinage was available to view. Work continues on more than a half dozen previously mentioned research-publication projects: Fugios, Wood's coinage, Massachusetts Coppers, St. Patrick Farthings, Sommer's Island and Lord Baltimore coinage, and Virginia coppers. Tony Carlotta is also working on a Vermont update.

The policy for those members who would like C4 support for their research or developing a relevant manuscript for publication is available on the C4 website- [www.colonialcoins.org](http://www.colonialcoins.org).

Charles Smith noted we needed better marketing for our message and products. The Publication Committee should talk to Charlie Davis about distributing C4 sponsored books.

Syd Martin, a C4 Newsletter Editor, noted that we should use a disclaimer in our club sponsored publications, including the Newsletter, that the conclusions stated by any author are their own and may not be represent the opinion of C4 or other members.

It was discussed that those who fail to pay their current year dues until the last half of the year may not get all back issues of the Newsletter to reduce the processing burden on the Club and its officers.

## ***C4 Newsletter***

Syd noted he has started making changes to the C4 Newsletter format, e.g., including some color photos and considering a larger, i.e. CNL-like format, and the inclusion of supplements. There was discussion about online versions with greater use of color for anyone who may want to print or file what they are interested in. The Club Publication Committee will work with Syd on format changes and on authors' needs. A membership vote was taken on changing the Newsletter format to the larger 8.5" x 11" format (Like CNL and Penny Wise) next year and this change was passed almost unanimously.

Syd reminded the members that there is a continuing need for short articles, notes, comments, interesting readings, relevant book reviews, anecdotes or summaries from our e-mail chat sessions for the C4 Newsletter. He said members should not be afraid to send him or other C4 Newsletter editors something they are unsure of and let the Editors and maybe Publication Committee make the decision or offer help in developing the information.

### **5. New Business.**

Syd Martin asked if we can reduce the Friday Night C4 convention information session to three talks: one feature and two others. This would be considered by our education and convention program directors.

Dennis Wierzba noted that next year's C4 convention, and the Fall Bay State show, will be the weekend AFTER Thanksgiving weekend- November 30-December 2, 2006.

### **6. Adjournment.**

Ray asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was so done.

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## PRICES REALIZED – 2004 C4 AUCTION

Provided below are the prices realized at the C4 auction held at our national convention. Once again, Chris McCawley and Bob Grellman conducted a superb auction, cataloged by Tom Rinaldo and called by Dan Friedus.

11th ANNUAL C4 CONVENTION SALE -- November 19, 2005, Boston

LOT	HAMMER	LOT	HAMMER	LOT	HAMMER	LOT	HAMMER	LOT	HAMMER	LOT	HAMMER
1	30	61	340	121	40	181	90	241	70	301	225
2	0	62	1100	122	40	182	50	242	65	302	0
3	2600	63	110	123	290	183	30	243	60	303	30
4	1100	64	75	124	175	184	30	244	40	304	450
5	110	65	180	125	0	185	30	245	55	305	0
6	280	66	120	126	0	186	80	246	40	306	425
7	3100	67	300	127	325	187	70	247	800	307	0
8	190	68	260	128	260	188	35	248	360	308	125
9	0	69	360	129	125	189	60	249	75	309	175
10	0	70	100	130	0	190	135	250	30	310	5250
11	0	71	550	131	190	191	80	251	400	311	60
12	70	72	220	132	50	192	300	252	70	312	625
13	125	73	320	133	30	193	925	253	1400	313	0
14	475	74	330	134	275	194	45	254	650	314	0
15	50	75	225	135	130	195	40	255	240	315	550
16	200	76	650	136	65	196	35	256	0	316	1150
17	35	77	60	137	35	197	35	257	360	317	2400
18	90	78	750	138	20	198	150	258	150	318	285
19	80	79	75	139	20	199	50	259	800	319	475
20	70	80	80	140	25	200	110	260	750	320	70
21	60	81	125	141	175	201	40	261	0	321	0
22	0	82	2750	142	35	202	110	262	525	322	575
23	40	83	2100	143	500	203	5250	263	0	323	110
24	120	84	0	144	80	204	30	264	550	324	0
25	60	85	80	145	200	205	70	265	0	325	165
26	60	86	2200	146	200	206	75	266	1400	326	425
27	475	87	75	147	0	207	150	267	440	327	320
28	190	88	160	148	80	208	60	268	150	328	250
29	220	89	125	149	60	209	55	269	1700	329	210
30	1600	90	1250	150	550	210	300	270	300	330	150
31	400	91	14000	151	550	211	140	271	700	331	220
32	140	92	800	152	20	212	55	272	210	332	120
33	180	93	130	153	50	213	50	273	1200	333	200
34	110	94	400	154	40	214	125	274	130	334	280
35	80	95	90	155	180	215	80	275	180	335	370
36	600	96	725	156	175	216	325	276	1300	336	0
37	240	97	850	157	135	217	220	277	650	337	130
38	240	98	225	158	250	218	375	278	175	338	950
39	85	99	110	159	50	219	30	279	360	339	325
40	60	100	1700	160	35	220	160	280	1275	340	0
41	90	101	160	161	550	221	45	281	450	341	650
42	70	102	60	162	525	222	260	282	950	342	1200
43	110	103	30	163	200	223	70	283	110	343	1200
44	110	104	40	164	220	224	150	284	5750	344	0
45	90	105	120	165	200	225	50	285	0	345	0
46	260	106	160	166	85	226	60	286	1250	346	90
47	80	107	750	167	85	227	100	287	475	347	650
48	75	108	0	168	25	228	50	288	275	348	5000
49	340	109	30	169	150	229	45	289	375	349	0
50	180	110	380	170	100	230	90	290	110	350	4500
51	190	111	340	171	200	231	30	291	240	351	160
52	725	112	130	172	85	232	65	292	700	352	250
53	180	113	900	173	30	233	130	293	0	353	425
54	725	114	2100	174	260	234	35	294	0	354	425
55	200	115	175	175	175	235	375	295	275	355	4500
56	1200	116	110	176	300	236	200	296	0	356	475
57	100	117	190	177	85	237	80	297	400	357	500
58	200	118	210	178	0	238	240	298	50	358	750
59	75	119	140	179	45	239	150	299	1300	359	130
60	120	120	50	180	130	240	70	300	425	360	900



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11th ANNUAL C4 CONVENTION SALE -- November 19, 2005, Boston											
LOT	HAMMER	LOT	HAMMER	LOT	HAMMER	LOT	HAMMER	LOT	HAMMER	LOT	HAMMER
361	0	383	350	405	575	427	500	449	120	471	18
362	1800	384	3500	406	220	428	350	450	170	472	20
363	125	385	150	407	325	429	3000	451	325	473	35
364	1700	386	200	408	260	430	1200	452	130	474	35
365	0	387	125	409	240	431	120	453	20	475	60
366	110	388	125	410	1100	432	70	454	50	476	40
367	1700	389	100	411	260	433	150	455	100	477	25
368	425	390	100	412	925	434	120	456	35	478	35
369	75	391	100	413	0	435	110	457	400	479	175
370	1400	392	600	414	55	436	325	458	3250	480	30
371	850	393	700	415	225	437	90	459	375	481	20
372	800	394	220	416	950	438	90	460	15	482	60
373	1500	395	1400	417	950	439	8000	461	15	483	80
374	380	396	1600	418	425	440	80	462	35	484	90
375	220	397	0	419	100	441	30	463	2500	485	120
376	260	398	50	420	850	442	170	464	220	486	40
377	280	399	2400	421	425	443	450	465	650	487	80
378	425	400	105	422	1200	444	160	466	20	488	75
379	2250	401	50	423	190	445	0	467	55	489	60
380	0	402	200	424	0	446	50	468	90	490	160
381	110	403	180	425	700	447	180	469	20		
382	300	404	750	426	425	448	180	470	25		

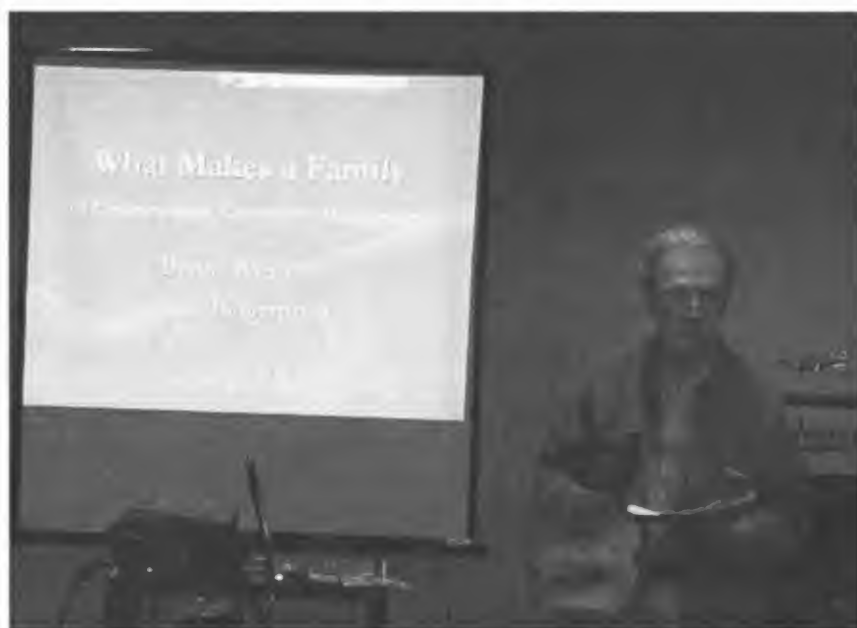
NOTES:  
[1] These represent hammer prices, and do not include a buyer's premium of 10%.  
[2] Lots with an indicated price of "0" indicates that the lot was either withdrawn or repurchased by the consignor.



Conviviality at the Hospitality Suite, Thursday Night



A Well-attended Educational Forum, Friday Night



## Learning about Counterfeit Halfpence.



## Good Conversation Before the General Meeting



Paying Attention During the General Meeting



Chris and Bob at the Borse

*Winter, 2005*



Tom Shows his Wares



Dan Calls the Auction While Grellmans Work the Book



## Classified Ads

Ads for this newsletter can be purchased as follows:

	1 issue	2 issues	3 issues	4 issues	Copy size
1 page	\$50	\$80	\$105	\$130	4-1/2"x 7-1/2"
1/2 page	30	55	75	\$95	4-1/2"x 3-3/4"

Covers cost somewhat more (please inquire). If you want to include a photo with your ad there will be an additional \$10 charge. A black and white photo will be needed, but the size can be adjusted. Please send check with your ad. We accept camera ready copy or any Microsoft Word compatible computer file.

All members also have the right to include a free classified ad in the newsletter of up to 13 lines of text.

*NOTE: in light of our planned modification in format for the C4 Newsletter, these prices and specifications may be changed during the upcoming year.*



WANTED-- Photos for the C4 archives of any unusual or significant colonial varieties. Reply to to mkringo@aol.com, or mail hard copies to Mike Ringo, [REDACTED].



Thanks to an ANS grant I am working on a study of circulating coins and currencies of the French and Indian Wars period (1689-1763). I would be very grateful for information on any American and Canadian metal detector finds dating to this period as well as any coins in collections that have find provenances attached to them. Contact: Oliver D. Hoover, [REDACTED]

Email: oliver.hoover@sympatico.ca

Lou Jordan, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] or e-mail: [ljordan@nd.edu](mailto:ljordan@nd.edu)

[illegible]

Fuld1@comcast.net

FOR SALE: CD, Special Edition 5.0, High-resolution digital images of my reference collection of Contemporary Counterfeit British & Irish 1/2d & 1/4d, well over 1,000 different specimens. Organized by Major Type, Date and Families where appropriate, with additional material on Major Errors and Die Breaks...\$55 post paid.

Registered buyers, if you'd like, will be added to a distribution list that will receive updates by email with images attached of new specimens of major varieties and Families as they are identified. For more information, see

Clem Schettino, [REDACTED]  
copperclem@comcast.net



- 1652 Willow Tree Shilling – Noe 3, R7+, XF. NGC/NCS Genuine. Full Date, denomination, and weight. \$150,000.
- 1652 Pine Tree Shilling – Noe 2, AU+. Full, bold strike; 72.4 grains. Reversed “N”s. Large Planchet. \$14,000.
- 1652 Pine Tree Shilling – Noe 29, VF-25. Full Date, Denomination, and tree. \$2,400.
- 1652 Pine Tree 3d – Noe 37, XF/AU. Small date and 5. \$4,900.
- 1787 NY Excelsior -- NGC/NCS VF (near XF) net, with corrosion. Mostly smooth and glossy. Eagle’s head right. ExRare, R7; possibly #2 coin. (call).
- 1787 Immunis Columbia Eagle Rev. – VF25. Smooth, Lt Brown and lovely. \$3,400.

Call for large list (hundreds). [REDACTED]. Franc Vivalo



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A. Vlack. This is the first comprehensive guide to the billion coinage that circulated in the French colonies of the Americas, which included Canada, Louisiana and the French West Indies. An 18-page introduction discusses the history of the coins and includes a rarity listing of the various counterstamped billion coins authorized for use in Canada during the seventeenth century. This is followed by an extensive and well-illustrated catalogue of the coins (pp. 20-157) reflecting over thirty years of research by Vlack on this topic. The catalog proceeds from the *Mosquetaires* of 30 and 15 *deniers* to the billon *Sous Marqués* and Half-*Sous Marqués* and then to contemporary counterfeits. It next includes a full listing of billion coinage and counterstamped billon coins of the French West Indies, as well as a discussion of the coins known as "black dogs." The work was amended and edited by Philip L. Mossman with typesetting and graphic design by Gary Trudgen.

In the catalogue every denomination is divided into sections, one section for each of the various French mints producing that denomination; some denominations were issued from as many as thirty different mints! Each mint section contains an explanation of all the mintmasters and engravers associated with that mint during the years of issue. The specific coins from the mint are then cataloged by year with annotations on mintage, rarity and variants. There are numerous illustrations with enlarged details of overdates and errors that are especially useful to the user in identification. This is the first time such information has been made available in English.

The folio size hardcover book (x+157 pp.) is available for \$50.00 US plus \$5.00 for shipping (\$6.50 to Canada and \$13.50 to Europe) from Ray Williams, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

For further information on this book and other books published by the Colonial Coin Collectors Club, as well as joining the organization, visit the C4 website at: [www.colonialcoins.org](http://www.colonialcoins.org)



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For Sale. 1787 Machins Mills Vlack 21 I-87D I. Coin grades nice AU with much choicer surfaces than lot #84 from the C-4 2000 sale. High condition census with none publicly offered in better grade in at least 25 years. High Rarity-6. Price \$7500  
[ershye@aol.com](mailto:ershye@aol.com)



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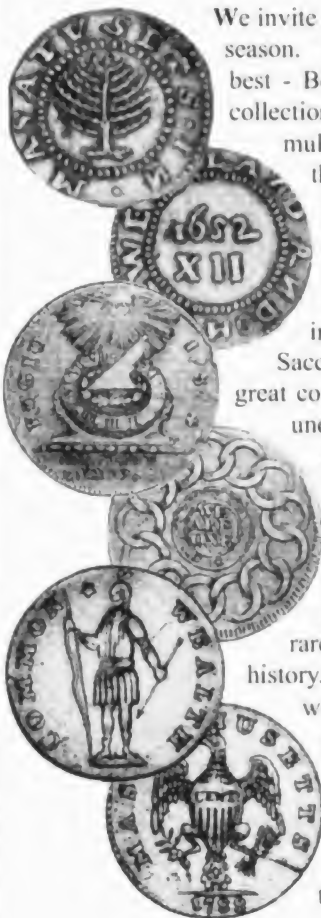


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